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At the present time the English post-
office employs not far short of 20,000
women in various capacities. The
Chamber's Journal, and of these it is
probable that the largest number are
employed in telegraphy or in duties re-
lating thereto. In London alone the
number would appear to exceed 1500, of
whom no fewer than 1000 are employed
at the central telegraph office in St.
Martin's le Grand. The salaries range
from 10s a week to a "girl graduate" to
£300 a year to the matron who superin-
tends the establishment. There can be
no doubt that, for all but the hardest
duties and the night work, women are
admirably adapted for telegraph work.
They are more tractable and patient
than men, and have a finer sense of
touch and hearing, the latter being an
indispensable qualification when so
much telegraph "translation" is now
done by sound, aural signals having
largely displaced visual in these days
of progress. All kinds of instruments
are worked at the central office, and
there are few, or none, which cannot be
efficiently operated by a fairly skilled
female telegraphist.**STOMACH TROUBLES.**When the nerves become irritated or
exhausted and the brain is weak-
ened by overwork, loss of sleep, or
worry and care, such troubles as
sick headache, loss of appetite, flatu-
lency, irritability, are sure to follow.
Dr. Miles' Nerveine is the best of all
nervine foods and tonics for restoring
the lost appetite, strengthening the
weakened nerve tissues and building
up the worn out brain cells. "I have
used Dr. Miles' Nerveine together with
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indigestion, dyspepsia and loss of
sleep and have received great benefit.
In fact I consider these remedies the
best preparation for building up the
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All druggists are authorized to sell
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first bottle will benefit or money will
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ISOBEL STRONG'S HOME

OLD HONOLULU RESIDENT IN

NEW YORK.

Was Formerly Drawing Teacher in the

City Schools—Her Rooms Fitted up

With South Sea Curios.

Isobel Strong, whose rooms in New

York are described in the following ar-
ticle, spent some years in Honolulu
with husband, the late Joseph Strong,
the artist, from whom she was subse-
quently divorced. The Strong's had a
studio in the Parker lot on Nuuanu
avenue, which was recently used by
Harold Mott-Smith. Mrs. Strong was
drawing teacher in the public schools of
this city during a portion of the Gibson
administration. After leaving Honolulu
she joined the Stevensons in Samoa, and
made her home with them till the death
of the great artist. Mrs. Strong con-
tributes articles and papers to the ma-
gazines and weeklies, which are marked
by keen observation and a vein of
satire.

The description by a writer in The

New York Tribune, of her home in New

York, runs as follows:

There is a pretty flat in 36th street,

the decorations of which are Samoan in

style. This little place is the present

home of Mrs. Isobel Strong, step-
daughter of Robert Louis Stevenson.

The walls, book cases and tables are

covered with souvenirs of her long re-
sidence in Honolulu and Samoa, includ-
ing the years passed in the household

of the famous author.

Conspicuously on a door hangs a

coarse blond wig, which was once the

head dress of a "beauty man," who is

a recognized part of every Samoan vil-
lage. The "beauty man" is elected as

head of the community in peace and

war, and must possess both the phys-
ical and mental traits necessary to lead-
ership.

A highly colored photograph of one of

these men is owned by Mrs. Strong.

She has also a picture of a "beauty

maid," whose tact and cleverness as

well as her personal charms form the

basis of her selection as official hostess.

A mat of tapa—the native cloth—

woven from the pith of a tree—forms a

background for various objects of art

from the islands. It is painted with

vegetable paints in crude designs that

bear some resemblance to the decora-
tive ideas of the Mexican Indians.

An artistic group of birds' wings, a

collection of the native combs, carved

from wood and varying in inches from

"three by five" to "six by ten," and a

small but perfect canoe, made by a

chief for young Austin Strong, are other

items in the interesting array.

A clever arrangement of the handbands

worn by bluejackets is suggestive of

Mrs. Strong life on the coast. The United

States, English, Russian, German,
French, Swedish and Chilean naviesare represented, and even H. M. S. Kai-
milua, the one ship of Kalakaua's navy,
shows as bravely as any in the group.

Mrs. Strong prizes especially a band

bearing the name Vandalla. It was given

to her, just a day or two before the

ship went down, by Paymaster Roche,
brother of James Jeffrey Roche, the

writer.

But what Mrs. Strong thinks is the

treasure of the collection is Koung, a

little fat-faced goddess, said by anti-
quarians to be at least 3000 years old.Koung does not lack her color to-
day, and sits serenely in the tiny tem-
ple fashioned for her by a New Yorkarchitect, silently accepting the gifts
laid upon her altar.

Robert Louis Stevenson wrote several

little poems to the goddess. One, writ-
ten in behalf of Mrs. Strong's son whengoing away to school for the first time,
runs thus:

A little fellow, putting forth alone.

Upon his first adventure, begs Koung

To guard his little fortunes and bring
back

Himself a bigger and a better boy.

A more material offering from Mr.

Stevenson was a tooth of a shark which

he had killed. King Kalakaua once pre-
sented a coin bearing his own princely

countenance on its face.

Mrs. Strong was her stepfather's

amanuensis. The manuscript of "Weir

of Hermiston" is owned by her, having

been given to her by Mr. Stevenson's

literary executor. Mrs. Strong was the

Belle of the Vaillima Letters.

In answer to numerous requests from

literary clubs and societies, she is now

preparing an informal lecture on the

home life of Mr. Stevenson.

A PUBLIC BLESSING.

"A trust," remarked the very prosper-

ous looking man, "is a public bless-
ing." "May it be," answered the un-
assuming friend, "but I can't helpthinking it is one of the kind that would
brighten as it took its flight."—Wash-
ington Star.**OYSTER COCKTAILS UP TO DATE**

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